

Claim Amendments

The following replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the Application:

Claims 1-19 (Cancelled).

Claim 20. (New) Tube, in particular for the use in medical devices in the form of catheters for endoluminal operations, comprising in at least one portion of its wall notches with width A such as to locally increase flexibility of said tube, said notches being provided in at least one distal zone of said tube and exhibiting a substantially discontinuous helical pattern, wherein said notches form an angle α with a circumference obtained on an outside surface of said tube, said angle α increasing from a distal end in a proximal direction.

Claim 21. (New) Tube according to claim 20, comprising a plurality of notches having a predetermined axial distance from one another.

Claim 22. (New) Tube according to claim 21, wherein said axial distance between said notches increases from the distal end in the proximal direction.

Claim 23. (New) Tube according to claim 20, wherein a width of said angle α increases by an amount β at each arc γ covered on the surface of the tube in terms of width E of each said notch and of angular distance G between two consecutive said notches.

Claim 24. (New) Tube according to claim 23, wherein a measure of said arc γ is comprised between 0° and 360° .

Claim 25. (New) Tube according to claim 20, wherein said width A is comprised between 5 μm and 1 mm.

Claim 26. (Currently amended) Tube according to claim 20, wherein said width A is comprised between 10 μm and 25 μm .

Claim 27. (New) Tube according to claim 20, wherein at least at said distal end or a proximal end, said notches comprise a circular hole having a larger diameter than the notch width.

Claim 28. (New) Tube according to claim 20, wherein said portion comprising said notches extends from said distal end in a proximal direction for a length comprised between 70 and 110 mm.

Claim 29. (New) Tube according to claim 20, wherein said portion comprising said notches extends from said distal end in a proximal direction for a length comprised between 80 and 100 mm.

Claim 30. (New) Tube according to claim 20, wherein said tube is realized with a metal material.

Claim 31. (New) Tube according to claim 30, wherein said metal material is stainless steel.

Claim 32. (New) Tube according to claim 20, wherein said tube is made of a polymeric material.

Claim 33. (New) Tube according to claim 20, wherein said tube is made of a composite material.

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Claim 34. (New) Tube according to claim 20, wherein said surface of said tube is covered with a layer of polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE).

Claim 35. (New) Catheter for endoluminal operations comprising a tube according to claim 20.